



STATE OF MAINE
CONNECTME AUTHORITY
3RD FLR. CROSS STATE OFFICE BUILDING
78 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0078

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October 14, 2014

Ms. Marlene Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Applications of AT&T Inc. and Direct TV for Consent to Assign
or Transfer Control of Licenses and Other Authorizations
MB Docket No. 14-90**

Dear Secretary Dortch,

The ConnectME Authority works to supplement the private sector's initiatives to bring high-speed Internet access to underserved areas of the state. On behalf of the Authority, I urge you to support the proposed AT&T/DirecTV merger.

When our agency was established five years ago, approximately 86% of Maine had access to high speed Internet but only a 40% adoption rate. Today, faster Internet has spread to over 91% of the state, and now over 73% of households subscribe to this modern Internet service. If the merger is approved, AT&T has promised to expand access to faster Internet even further throughout our state. This expansion will reach our rural areas that still do not have access to modern Internet services and drive competition in other areas. The joining of these two companies will also provide new bundles of high speed Internet and video services, allowing consumers to experience the broadband benefits of their choosing.

While the Authority continues its work to modernize our state's technological infrastructure, we are certain the joined companies will help us achieve the goals we have for Maine. For these reasons, I enthusiastically support the merger between AT&T and DirecTV.

Sincerely,

Phillip Lindley
Executive Director

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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